

REMARKS

The present Preliminary Amendment cancels claims 1-14, 17, 25 and 26, amends claims 15 and 19, and adds new claims 27-31.

Claims 15, 16, 18-24 and 27-31 are now pending in the present divisional application.

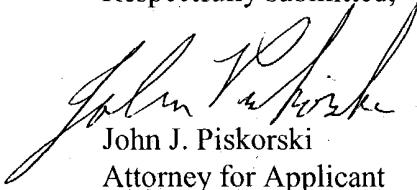
Claim 15 was amended by deleting the expression "at least one or more soluble metal salt" and inserting "one or more soluble metal salt". Claim 15 also was amended to delete the expression "non aromatic compounds having  $\pi$  electrons that can be delocalized" and inserting the expression "hydroxylated gamma-pyrone compounds".

Claims 18 and 19 were amended to change the term "concentration" to "concentrations".

New claims 27 to 31 have been added to more particularly point out and clearly define the invention.

Favorable consideration and allowance of claims 15, 16, 18-24 and 27-31 are earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,



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